



National Day of Mourning for President Gerald R. Ford

As the Nation mourns the loss of President Gerald R. Ford, President George W. Bush has taken official action to allow Federal employees to join their fellow citizens in remembering our thirty-eighth President of the United States. The President has issued the attached Executive order to close Federal offices and excuse all Federal employees from duty for the scheduled workday on **Tuesday, January 2, 2007**, except those who, in the judgment of the head of the agency, cannot be excused for reasons of national security, defense, or other essential public business.

As President Bush stated, "President Ford was known as a man of complete integrity, who led our country with common sense and kind instincts. Americans will always admire Gerald Ford's unflinching performance of duty, the honorable conduct of his Administration, and the great rectitude of the man himself."

For pay and leave purposes, this period of time will be treated as falling within the scope of Executive Order 11582 of February 11, 1971, and of 5 U.S.C. 5546 and 6103(b) and other similar statutes insofar as they relate to the pay and leave of employees of the United States. Employees scheduled to take annual or sick leave on January 2, 2007, will not be charged leave (or any other form of leave, compensatory time off or credit hours) for that day. If an employee has scheduled use or lose annual leave for Jan. 2, and is unable to reschedule that leave for use before the end of the leave year (January 6, 2007), the leave will be forfeited. When use or lose leave is forfeited under these conditions, there is no authority that permits restoration of the leave.

Executive Order: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2006/12/20061228-3.html>

President's Proclamation of observance:
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2006/12/20061228-2.html>

OPM News Release: <http://www.opm.gov/news/president-george-w-bush-to-close-federal-offices-in-tribute-to-former-president-gerald-r-ford,1130.aspx>

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1-877-NSSC123 or nssc-contactcenter@nasa.gov